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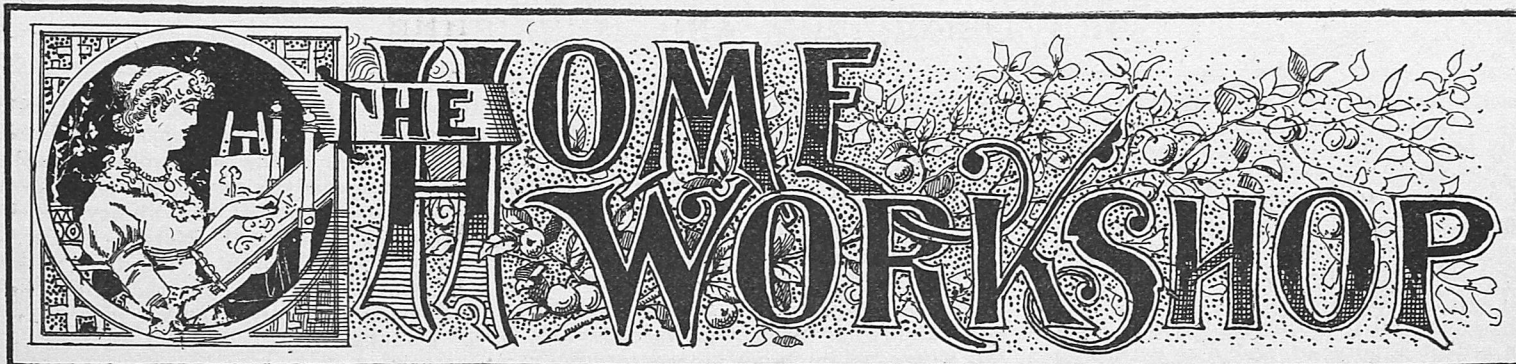
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# THE HOME WORKSHOP

## NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE.

By MARY F. HARMAN.

A NOVEL way to drape a wide doorway is to hang a Turkish rug in the space. This should be slightly felled and caught up with heavy cords in the centre. Long curtains which harmonize in coloring should be draped at the sides, and these should only cover the space between the end of the rug and the frame of the door.

Some Japanese cotton curtains over three yards in length, and very wide, are sold at \$3.50 a piece. They are in rich colorings of orange and red and blue, and the former price was \$5. They are used not only for doorway and window curtains, but for bedspreads as well, the extra length being cut off and used for covering the round bolster.

Other bedspreads of French manufacture are quite new in this market. They are of Turkey red with appliqué figures of a cream white material, put on in a set design. They are \$15 a piece, and will probably prove very durable. Table covers to match are \$5.

The beautiful Bokhara table covers are somewhat cheaper than formerly, and one about one and a-half yard square may often be found for \$15. They are of heavy linen, well covered with solid embroidery done in linen and silk threads in reds and blues, and time only increases the beauty of the dyes. The great age of one of these covers owned by the writer, is shown by the number of patches which dot the surface of the linen; the embroidery itself however is still in perfect condition, and the coloring a constant pleasure.

The Kelim rug is not often sold in this country, as it is not always woven very evenly, but this defect overlooked, it is a wonderful rug to wear. One 4 ft. 6 in. x 8 ft. 6 in. may be bought for \$10, and both in color and design it will be found very pleasing.

Where a bare table is used for luncheon or supper, folded dinner napkins may take the place of plate doyleys, in the absence of the latter. The napkins should be folded in a small square, just large enough for the plate to rest upon, and they have the advantage of being thick enough to protect the table from the heat which the d'oyley does not do.

Large Japanese scrap baskets standing a foot and a-half high may be bought now for fifty cents, and although they really

require no trimming whatever, one may be made very showy by the addition of a deep, full puff of silk sewed around the top. Old rose is a good color to use, and a wide scarf of the same in which a branch of rosy cheeked apples is knotted, completes a graceful and useful ornament.

The Navajo Indians and soldiers at Fort Defiance, Arizona, go out among the ant hills and find upon their surface scores of gems in a rough state which they sell to jewelers and collectors. These are garnets and peridots (Job's tears), and among the former are some of the finest specimens in the world. The peridot is an olive-green mineral which is largely cut into gems.

Russian glass is so interesting to collectors because the designs and shapes are largely copied from pieces of old Byzantine enamel work which are preserved in the Kremlin and other palaces and museums of Europe. It is enameled in colors and there is a richness about it which make the pieces well suited for the bric-a-brac cabinet.

A slight moisture is said to be good for pianos, and one authority claims that a single growing plant in a room will give out all that is necessary to keep a piano in proper condition.

A large glass jar with a silver cover is filled with salts, and is intended for the drawing-room table. The cover should be removed just long enough to perfume the room, and then tightly screwed on again. \$18 is asked for these.

Chatelaine holders both for spectacles and eye-glasses come now in sterling silver in rich repoussé designs. They are small pockets lined with leather, and are attached to a chain and hook. The former are \$10, and the latter \$6. Another silver novelty is a bar on which wool is to be wound, and another is a tiny silver tube to hold a single flower. This is arranged so that it may be attached to the corsage or the lapel of a coat.

English manufacturers of candles make over sixteen colors in wax, and it is claimed that the best of these do not run. They are sold at 58 cents a pound, and are in lovely colorings.

Cotton corduroy is much used for needleword and bed-spreads already stamped for working are \$3.50. There is a cotton armure which is also effective.

The pretty and durable Italian blanket sells for \$2, and the uses to which it is put are numerous. It makes the best of

sofa afghans, being warm and light, and who could knit one which would cost so little? Those in dark colorings are suitable for carriage rugs in moderate weather, and for doorway curtains they answer admirably.

The fancy for the antique is in no wise on the wane, and brass is now darkened by artificial means to take on the look of age. After this it is burnished and then lacquered, and no one would know the difference until the lacquer wears off, when the burnishing has to be repeated. There is a place at Short Hills, N. J., where brass goods may be sent to receive a lacquer bath. This admirable invention renders the care of such articles very simple. In the old times "scouring the brasses" was a part of the regular household work, and a trying and tedious process it was.

A very unique screen lately seen was made of embroidered court dresses of the period of Louis XIV. Each panel was of wood rounded at the top and standing about four feet high, and on these the gorgeous robes were neatly fastened. They were all different in coloring and were heavy with embroidery in silks and gold thread. The extra fullness was made into small pockets near the top, and these added much to the general curious effect.

## DECORATIVE GOSSIP.

MANTELS lambrequins of red plush, richly embroidered in a variety of colors, will brighten up the plainest room.

A new phase in the setting of diamond rings occurs in an oblong fashion, which is a variation from the circular and star styles. Marquise rings of turquoise are surrounded with diamonds, their white brilliance forming a lovely contrast to the delicate blue of the centre stone.

Hand mirrors are framed in carved silver. Amber opera glasses vie with those of gold silver and aluminum. Vernis Martin, First Empire and decorated porcelain clocks are pretty enough to make one forget the flight of time.

Among new sash curtains and drapery stuffs found in the upholstery departments of large stores are printed French nainsooks that imitate the colored China silk draperies used for such purposes. The finish is silken and the colorings and designs precisely like the silk stuffs, but the price is only 15 cents a yard. With these and other drapery stuffs at such low prices it is unpardonable to leave one's room bare and open doors and halls uncurtained.